

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-3 and 6-10 are all the claims pending in the application. In the Advisory Action mailed on April 19, 2006, the Examiner maintains the rejection of claims 1-3 and 6-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kojima et al in view of Sugiyama et al (U.S. Pat. No. 6,773,770).

An RCE is submitted herewith requesting entry of the Amendment filed on April 10, 2006 and the arguments presented therein are incorporated herein by reference.

In response to the Examiner's comments in the Advisory Action that the comparative examples are not representative of the closest prior art, i.e. Kojima, et al (U.S. Patent No. 4,830,911) with respect to the evidence in the specification and the Declaration previously submitted, Applicants respectfully submit that Comparative Example 3 in the specification (and in the Declaration) uses the same polymer as in Example 4 of Kojima et al and the Declaration shows significantly large differences in the rate of change of the density. Thus, Applicants have provided a comparison to the closest prior art to show that the present invention provides unexpectedly superior results over the prior art.

Further, it would be impossible for even those skilled in the art to expect the effect of suppression of time-dependent blurring of the present invention using a cationic resin having a cationic equivalent amount lower than that of the cationic resin taught by Kojima et al (U.S. Patent No. 4,830,911). Sugiyama et al does not cure the deficiencies of Kojima et al for the reasons of record. Thus, the presently claimed invention is not rendered obvious.


Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the §103 rejection.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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